

## Book Reviews

**Nursing Mental Diseases.** By Harriet Bailey. 175 pp. N. Y.: Macmillan Company. 1920.

This is a brief exposition of psychiatry for the use of nurses. After a short psychological introduction there is a history of the treatment of the insane, followed by consideration of psychiatry as a whole, and then specific instruction about the various disease groups. The book closes with short chapters on the Binet-Simon tests and Hydrotherapy. Here and there through the book are selected bibliographies for those who wish to pursue the subject further.

**Diseases of Women.** By Charles M. Green. 466 pp. Illustrated. Boston: W. M. Leonard. 1920.

This volume is arranged with the idea of presenting to students the subject of gynecology by making use of well written case histories. There are five sections covering: (1) Infancy and childhood, (2) Puberty and adolescence, (3) Maturity, (4) the climacteric, (5) Anility. Each section is divided into, Introduction, Functional Disorders, Malformations, Infections, Traumata, Neoplasms, and Illustrative cases. The divisions are further subdivided where indicated.

The author has been able, due to his wonderful experience, to cover the subject thoroughly. The case histories are illustrative of nearly every type of gynecological ailment. They are clear, well written and the subject illustrated is ably discussed especially regarding diagnosis and choice of treatment.

The volume can be highly recommended as a valuable aid in teaching diseases of women.  
—H. A. S.

**After-Treatment of Surgical Patients.** By Willard Bartlett. Two volumes. 1066 pp. Illustrated. St. Louis: C. V. Mosby Company. 1920. Price, \$10.00.

The author has drawn on the material and statistics of Rochester, Cleveland, Baltimore, and St. Louis for the subject matter in the two volumes of his work on the post-operative care of patients. The first and larger volume is devoted to the general consideration of routine technic in the management of operative material and the handling of general subjective and objective sequelae to surgical intervention such as sleeplessness, headache, hiccough, backache, shock, hemorrhage, fat embolism, ileus, decubitus, etc., etc. The subject matter is well presented and embraces most of the routine measures with some special means for the handling of the cases. It seems quite valuable that we should have, in accessible form, this fairly comprehensive digest. A reading of this part of the work can not fail to bring back to mind many valuable data to the surgeon's armamentarium and to add quite a few new and useful ones. The wealth of information provided indicates an attention to detail in the care of surgical patients from which the patients can not but benefit. Symptomatic treatment surely finds a congenial field when the welfare of the patient in the post-operative period is to be promoted. This book can add much to the resources of any surgeon, no matter how experienced.

The second volume is occupied in the more detailed consideration of the management of surgery of the special organs and tissues and presents many of the approved methods of technic directed to the obtaining of operative results that should promote comfort and well-being in the patient and a maximum of disability and discomfort.

While the field covered is extensive, one is

struck by the wealth of excellently applicable and reliable measures advocated and the simple and direct manner in which the subject matter is written. The special value of the whole work may be summed up by saying that, as in every other field of human endeavor, a constant and persistent attention to detail, together with a facile resourcefulness, are bound to crown one's efforts with the greatest measure of success. G. H. T.

## Correspondence

### COUNTRY GENTLEMAN BELIES THE NAME

San Francisco, Calif., Nov. 3, 1920.

To the Editor:—

In the Country Gentleman, October 16, 1920 is an article by Albert Payson Terhune, entitled "Vivisection."

This article is one of the most scurrilous and misleading pieces of political propaganda ever printed. It is an unjust attack upon the Medical Profession of the entire world. It is a fanatical misrepresentation of facts.

Alleged quotations from the work of Magendie, Dupuytren, Sir Charles Bell and Claude Bernard are made as representing current practice of vivisection by the members of the medical profession of the present day. Most atrocious and uncalled for mutilations of dogs are also alleged. The entire article, if it were not for the appeal which it makes to the sympathies of the uninformed, might be passed over as ridiculous.

It would seem that this article calls for editorial comment on the part of every decent medical journal in the world. Especially does this seem advisable, because the editorial management of the Country Gentleman refuses to print a reasonable reply to Mr. Terhune's unreasonable and unjustifiable attack on the Medical Profession.

Yours respectfully,

ETHAN H. SMITH.

### VERBUM SAP

San Francisco, Cal., November 10, 1920.

To the Editor:—

Surely every physician must agree with me that intolerance and fanaticism are always condemnable and always anew ought to be kicked into the darkness and tyrannical misery from where they originate, and from where always anew they try to emerge. Intolerance is an abomination no matter if displayed by Chinese, Mohammedan or so-called Christian-Puritan narrow-mindedness, and bigotry; yes, even when brutally paraded by some medical committee long on authority and short on justice.

When the writer of these lines came to California in 1892 he soon found that it was unethical to consult with homeopathic and eclectic physicians. Was this a good rule? Or was intolerance that drove many good and scientific men outside of the medical fold, and prevented others becoming real scientists and useful co-workers? Are we going to repeat the same blunder, and create new schools; for instance an Opotheapeutic one? If this is not our aim, whence the eagerness to bait a good man, a real scientist?

It is our claim that we do not care what therapeutic school any physician professes, as long as he demonstrates to our board of examiners that he had the proper learning, and therefore the necessary knowledge to know what he is talking about.

There certainly could be no objection if a real scientist came to us and demonstrated or tried to prove how a stone in the kidney or bladder could be melted by prayer. Surely he would have to offer good proofs, or take the consequences.